

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

To the Honorable Mayor, Members of the
City Commission and City Manager,
City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida:

We have audited the accompanying general-purpose financial statements of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida (the "City"), as of and for the year ended September 30, 1999, as listed in the Table of Contents. These general-purpose financial statements and the supplementary financial statements and schedules referred to below are the responsibility of the City's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general-purpose financial statements and the supplementary financial statements and schedules based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* (1994 Revision), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the general-purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, as of September 30, 1999, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its proprietary fund types and nonexpendable trust funds for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

The Year 2000 supplementary information on page 45 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), and we did not audit and do not express an opinion on such information. Further, we were unable to apply to the information certain procedures prescribed by professional standards because disclosure criteria specified by GASB Technical Bulletin 98-1 as amended are not sufficiently specific to permit meaningful results from the prescribed procedures. In addition, we do not provide assurance that the City is or will become Year 2000 compliant, that the City's Year 2000 remediation efforts will be successful in whole or in part, or that parties with which the City does business are or will be Year 2000 compliant.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report, dated December 30, 1999, on our consideration of the City's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants.

Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general-purpose financial statements of the City taken as a whole. The supplementary combining individual fund and account group financial statements and schedules listed in the Table of Contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general-purpose financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

Arthur Andersen LLP

Fort Lauderdale, Florida,
December 30, 1999.